

APPROVED FOR RELEASE - Historical Programs Staff 30 August 2018

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GENERAL

1. Soviet troops reported moving into Bulgaria--According to US Delegation ACC Rumania, US officers who recently have returned from the Rumanian-Bulgarian border area report "strong indications" that Soviet forces, numbering possibly four to eight divisions, have crossed the Danube into Bulgaria during the past three weeks.
2. Large Yugoslav troop concentration on Greek border "impossible"--According to US Ambassador MacVeagh, US Military Attache Athens believes that 60,000 to 70,000 troops may be in south central Yugoslavia, but that the nature of the terrain would preclude large troop concentrations near the Yugoslav-Greek border. The MA still estimates that an attack on Greece or Turkey, while certainly possible, is not probable at present.
3. Vatican authority sees even chance USSR will start war this year--Cardinal Tisserant, Vatican authority on Soviet affairs, has told US Charge Vatican City that he firmly believes there is a "fifty-fifty chance" that the USSR will provoke war this year. Tisserant added that the USSR "obviously is now in a favorable position to overrun Western Europe, gearing Germany and local Communist organizations into the Soviet war machine."
4. USSR submits proposal to UN Military Staff Committee--The text of the six-point Soviet proposal to the Military Staff Committee on the purpose of UN armed forces, as reported by Herschel Johnson, includes provisions for (a) the employment of such forces only on decision of the Security Council and (b) their withdrawal within 30 days after the termination of their activities, unless otherwise decided by the SC.
5. British suggest admission of Italy to Tangier administration--A French Foreign Ministry official has told Caffery of a formal British suggestion that Italy be included at once in the administration of the International Zone of Tangier.
6. Early conclusion of UK-Egyptian treaty expected--US Embassy Cairo reports that the resumption of Anglo-Egyptian conversations "marks the final and crucial stage." The Embassy has been informed by the British that they are offering the Egyptians "new formulas, not new

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proposals." The Egyptian Vice-Premier has stated that the treaty will be signed by 23 September, although some observers believe the Egyptians will again reject the British views.

7. Close vote expected on Icelandic base agreement--In view of the anticipated "very narrow margin of votes" in the Althing on the US base agreement, US Minister Dreyfus urges that the US arrange immediate air transportation enabling Asgeir Asgeirsson, a leading Icelandic Social Democrat, to reach Iceland in time for the vote.

EUROPE

8. USSR: Embassy Moscow urges expediting of US broadcasts--US Charge Durbrow in Moscow reports growing fear among the Soviet people that the US is seeking war against the USSR. Durbrow comments that radio is the only way of easing this fear directly, and urges that the inauguration of Russian-language broadcasts by the US receive high priority and that great care be taken in the preparation of programs to insure maximum influence.
9. ITALY: Soviet activities in Venice area--The State Department has approved US Political Advisor Byington's position that the US at present has no grounds to request Italy to order the withdrawal of the Soviet mission in Venice (see Daily Summary of 16 September, item 7). The Department expects, however, that the Allied Commission in Italy will discuss with the Italian Government the disturbing Soviet activities in the Venice area.

FAR EAST

10. N.E.I.: Dutch troops to relieve British in mid-November--US Naval Attache Batavia reports that, according to Dutch General Spoor, Dutch forces relieving British troops will arrive in Indonesia by mid-November rather than early in December.

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11. KOREA: Deteriorating conditions in Soviet zone--General Hodge reports that any withdrawals of Soviet troops from certain areas in North Korea that had occurred during the second half of August (see Daily Summary of 12 September, item 13) were probably caused by growing shortages of local food supplies.
12. CHINA: CNRRA Director to resign--US Consul General Davis at Shanghai reports that CNRRA Director Tsiang has said he will resign because of political differences with Kuomintang leaders. Davis believes that, if Tsiang's report of political complications is correct, serious difficulties will be met in obtaining continued Chinese adherence to UNRRA principles and distribution policies.

THE AMERICAS

13. PANAMA: Former President reported planning revolt--US Embassy Panama has received reports from "widely different sources" that former President Arnulfo Arias (recently released from jail) is planning to lead a revolution some time before January 1947.

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